Judge Erithe Smith, Presiding Courtroom 5A Calendar

Thursday, September 2, 2021

**Hearing Room** 

**5A** 

9:30 AM 8:00-00000

Chapter

#0.00 All hearings on this calendar will be conducted remotely, using ZoomGov video and audio.

Parties in interest and members of the public may connect to the video and audio feeds, free of charge, using the connection information provided below.

Individuals may participate by ZoomGov video and audio using a personal computer (equipped with camera, microphone and speaker), or a handheld mobile device (such as an iPhone or Android phone). Individuals may opt to participate by audio only using a telephone (standard telephone charges may apply).

Neither a Zoom nor a ZoomGov account is necessary to participate and no pre-registration is required. The audio portion of each hearing will be recorded electronically by the Court and constitutes its official record.

Meeting URL: https://cacb.zoomgov.com/j/1609067884

Meeting ID: 160 906 7884

**Password:** 581315

**Telephone conference lines:** 1 (669) 254 5252 or 1 (646) 828

7666

For more information on appearing before Judge Smith by ZoomGov, please see the "Notice of Video and Telephonic Appearance Procedures for Judge Erithe A. Smith's Cases" on the Court's website at: https://www.cacb.uscourts.gov/judges/honorable-erithe-smith under the

Judge Erithe Smith, Presiding Courtroom 5A Calendar

Thursday, September 2, 2021

**Hearing Room** 

**5A** 

9:30 AM CONT...

Chapter

"Telephonic Instructions" section.

To assist in creating a proper record and for the efficiency of these proceedings, please:

- Connect 10 minutes before your hearing time so that you have time to check in.
- Change your Zoom name to include your calendar number, first initial and last name, and client name (ex. 5, R. Smith, ABC Corp.) if appearing by video. This can be done by clicking on "More" and "Rename" from the Participants list or by clicking on the three dots on your video tile.

Docket 0

**Courtroom Deputy:** 

- NONE LISTED -

**Tentative Ruling:** 

- NONE LISTED -

### Judge Erithe Smith, Presiding Courtroom 5A Calendar

Thursday, September 2, 2021

**Hearing Room** 

**5A** 

9:30 AM

### 8:19-11551 Richard Allen Rietveld

Chapter 7

Adv#: 8:19-01162 Becharoff Capital Corporation v. Rietveld

#1.00 CONT'D PRE-TRIAL CONFERENCE RE: Complaint Objecting To Debtor's Discharge Under 11 U.S.C. Section 727(a)(2), 727(a)(3), 727 (a)(4) and 727(a) (5)

FR: 11-7-19; 5-21-20; 8-20-20; 10-1-20; 12-17-20; 4-1-21; 5-20-21; 7-15-21

Docket 1

### **Courtroom Deputy:**

SPECIAL NOTE: Notice that the case has been settled and the plaintiff intends to dismiss its objection to debtor/defendant's discharge, filed 7/6/21 - adm (7/7/2021)

#### **Tentative Ruling:**

**November 7, 2019** 

Discovery Cut-off Date: April 1, 2020

Pretrial Conference Date: May 21, 2020 at 9:30 a.m.

(XX)

Deadline to File Joint Pretrial Stipulation: May 7, 2020

Note: If <u>all</u> parties agree with the foregoing schedule, appearances at today's hearing are <u>waived</u> and Plaintiff shall serve/lodge a scheduling order consistent with the same.

-----

#### August 20, 2020

If more time is needed for settlement discussions, continue the pretrial conference to October 1, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. Plaintiff <u>must</u> file either a joint pretrial stipulation (if no settlement) or a status report (settlement reached or pending) by no later than September 22, 2020 or monetary sanctions may be imposed. (XX)

# Judge Erithe Smith, Presiding Courtroom 5A Calendar

Thursday, September 2, 2021

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5A

9:30 AM

**CONT...** Richard Allen Rietveld

Chapter 7

Note: If all parties accept the foregoing tentative ruling, appearances at today's hearing are not required and Plaintiff shall serve notice of the continued hearing date/time.

------

#### October 1, 2020

Continue this Pretrial Conference to December 17, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. as a Status Conference; an updated Status Report <u>must</u> be filed by December 3, 2020. (XX)

Special Note: A Status Report was not timely filed by September 17, 2020 as previously ordered by the Court [docket #14]. If this adversary proceeding remains pending as of December 3, 2020 and no Status Report is filed by such date, sanctions in an amount of not less than \$200 will be imposed on Plaintiff's counsel for failure to do so.

Note: If the parties accept the foregoing tentative ruling, appearances at this hearing are not required; Plaintiff to serve notice of the continued hearing date/time on Defendant.

\_\_\_\_\_

### **December 17, 2020**

Set Pretrial Conference for April 1, 2021 at 9:30 a.m.; Joint Pretrial Stipulation must be filed by March 18, 2021. (XX)

Special note: As the first Status Conference was held more than one year ago, the court will not simply continue the Status Conference any further. Either the matter will settle or proceed to trial.

Note: If the parties accept the foregoing tentative ruling, appearances at this hearing are not required and Plaintiff shall lodge an order consistent with the same.

\_\_\_\_\_

# Judge Erithe Smith, Presiding Courtroom 5A Calendar

Thursday, September 2, 2021

**Hearing Room** 

**5A** 

9:30 AM

# CONT... Richard Allen Rietveld May 20, 2021

Chapter 7

Impose sanctions against Plaintiff's counsel in the amount of \$100 for failure to timely file either a Joint Pretrial Stipulation or Status Report by May 6, 2021 (See Order at docket #29).

Note: Appearance at this hearing is required.

-----

July 15, 2021

Continue this hearing one final time to September 2, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. to allow Plaintiff to re-notice creditors re the intent to dismiss the 727 claims. (XX)

# Basis for Tentative Ruling:

The notice given by Plaintiff does not provide a 14-day notice of the opportunity to object to the dismissal of 727 claims.

Note: If the parties accept the foregoing tentative ruling, appearances at today's hearing are not required.

-----

### September 2, 2021

In light of the notice given to crediotrs regarding Plantiff's intent to dismiss the 727 claims, this Status Conference will be taken off calendar.

Note: Appearances at this Status Conference are not required; Plaintiff to lodge an order dismissing the adversary proceeding within 7 days of today's hearing.

### **Party Information**

### **Debtor(s):**

Richard Allen Rietveld

Represented By Alon Darvish

# Judge Erithe Smith, Presiding Courtroom 5A Calendar

Thursday, September 2, 2021 Hearing Room 5A

9:30 AM

CONT... Richard Allen Rietveld Chapter 7

**Defendant(s):** 

Richard Allen Rietveld Pro Se

**Plaintiff(s):** 

Becharoff Capital Corporation Represented By

Fritz J Firman

**Trustee(s):** 

Richard A Marshack (TR) Pro Se

# Judge Erithe Smith, Presiding Courtroom 5A Calendar

Thursday, September 2, 2021

**Hearing Room** 

**5A** 

9:30 AM

**8:20-12420** Lisa Anne Braski

Chapter 7

Adv#: 8:20-01165 Braski v. Ascendium Education Solutions et al

#2.00 PRE-TRIAL CONFERENCE RE: Debtor's Complaint to Determine
Dischargeability of Student Loan Debts Under 11 U.S.C. Section 523(a)(8),
Based on Undue Hardship; and/or Alternatively that Each of the Student Loans
are not Qualified Educational Loans Excepted from Discharge

FR: 3-4-21

Docket 1

\*\*\* VACATED \*\*\* REASON: CONTINUED TO 10/14/2021 at 9:30 a.m., Per Orde Entered on 8-17-21 (Docket No. 24) (XX)

**Courtroom Deputy:** 

CONTINUED: Continued to 10/14/2021 at 9:30 a.m., Per Order Entered on 8-17-21 (Docket No. 24) (XX) - jl/td

**Tentative Ruling:** 

March 4, 2021

Discovery Cut-off Date: June 4, 2021 Deadline to Attend Mediation: July 30, 2021

Pretrial Conference Date: Sept. 2, 2021 at 9:30 a.m.

(XX)

Deadline to file Joint Pretrial Stipulation: Aug. 19, 2021

Note: If <u>all</u> parties agree with the foregoing schedule, appearances at today's hearing are <u>waived</u> and Plaintiff shall serve/lodge a scheduling order consistent with the same.

#### **Party Information**

#### **Debtor(s):**

Lisa Anne Braski

Represented By Jeffrey N Wishman

9/2/2021 3:04:46 PM

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# Judge Erithe Smith, Presiding Courtroom 5A Calendar

Thursday, September 2, 2021 Hearing Room 5A

9:30 AM

CONT... Lisa Anne Braski Chapter 7

**Defendant(s):** 

Ascendium Education Solutions Pro Se

Educational Credit Management Pro Se

Plaintiff(s):

Lisa Anne Braski Represented By

Marcus G Tiggs Leon D Bayer

**Trustee(s):** 

Jeffrey I Golden (TR) Pro Se

### Judge Erithe Smith, Presiding Courtroom 5A Calendar

Thursday, September 2, 2021

**Hearing Room** 

**5A** 

10:00 AM

### 8:18-13073 Bonifacio A. Baquiran and Virginia Prenda Baquiran

Chapter 13

#3.00 CON'TD Hearing RE: Motion for relief from the automatic stay [REAL PROPERTY]

SERVICING, INC.

VS.

**DEBTORS** 

FR: 7-15-21

Docket 65

\*\*\* VACATED \*\*\* REASON: OFF CALENDAR - Order Approving Stipulation to Continue Hearing to October 21, 2021 at 10:00 AM entered on 9-1-21 (Docket No. 72). - jl

# **Courtroom Deputy:**

OFF CALENDAR - Order Approving Stipulation to Continue Hearing to October 21, 2021 at 10:00 AM entered on 9-1-21 (Docket No. 72). - jl

#### **Tentative Ruling:**

#### July 15, 2021

If Debtor is now current with postpetition payments, immediate relief from stay will be denied but an adequate protection order will be granted. The court encourages the parties to work out the terms of any adequate protection order.

.....

### September 2, 2021

The parties are to advise the court re the status of this matter. If more time is required to work out an APO, the hearing may be continued one final time to September 30, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. by making a request during the calendar roll call just prior to today's hearing.

# Judge Erithe Smith, Presiding Courtroom 5A Calendar

Thursday, September 2, 2021

**Hearing Room** 

**5A** 

10:00 AM

**CONT...** Bonifacio A. Baquiran and Virginia Prenda Baquiran

Chapter 13

**Party Information** 

**Debtor(s):** 

Bonifacio A. Baquiran Represented By

Tina H Trinh

**Joint Debtor(s):** 

Virginia Prenda Baquiran Represented By

Tina H Trinh

**Movant(s):** 

Select Portfolio Servicing Inc., as Represented By

Jenelle C Arnold

**Trustee(s):** 

Amrane (SA) Cohen (TR) Pro Se

# Judge Erithe Smith, Presiding Courtroom 5A Calendar

Thursday, September 2, 2021

**Hearing Room** 

**5A** 

10:00 AM

8:20-12904 Igor Leonidovich Rybkin and Yelena Aleksandrovna

Chapter 7

#4.00 Hearing RE: Motion for relief from the automatic stay [PERSONAL PROPERTY]

WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB

VS.

**DEBTORS** 

Docket 23

**Courtroom Deputy:** 

- NONE LISTED -

**Tentative Ruling:** 

September 2, 2021

Grant with 4001(a)(3) waiver.

Note: This matter appears to be uncontested. Accordingly, no court appearance by the Movant is required. Should an opposing party file a late opposition or appear at the hearing, the court will determine whether further hearing is required and Movant will be so notified.

### **Party Information**

**Debtor(s):** 

Igor Leonidovich Rybkin Represented By

Angela Mestre

**Joint Debtor(s):** 

Yelena Aleksandrovna Rybkina Represented By

Angela Mestre

# Judge Erithe Smith, Presiding Courtroom 5A Calendar

Thursday, September 2, 2021 Hearing Room

10:00 AM

CONT... Igor Leonidovich Rybkin and Yelena Aleksandrovna Chapter 7

Movant(s):

Wilmington Savings Fund Society, Represented By

Christina J Khil

**5A** 

**Trustee(s):** 

Jeffrey I Golden (TR) Pro Se

Judge Erithe Smith, Presiding Courtroom 5A Calendar

Thursday, September 2, 2021

**Hearing Room** 

**5A** 

10:30 AM

8:16-11882 Stephen J Haythorne

Chapter 7

Adv#: 8:16-01247 Damon v. Haythorne

#5.00 CON'TD Examination of Judgment Debtor Stephen J. Haythorne RE: Enforcement of Judgment

FR: 7-16-19; 8-15-19; 10-17-19; 11-21-19; 1-30-20; 4-2-20; 6-11-20; 9-10-20; 11-19-20; 1-14-21; 3-11-21; 5-11-21; 7-1-21

Docket 128

\*\*\* VACATED \*\*\* REASON: CONTINUED TO 11/4/2021 AT 10:30 A.M., PER ORDER ENTERED 8/30/2021 (XX)

#### **Courtroom Deputy:**

- NONE LISTED -

### **Tentative Ruling:**

SPECIAL IMPORTANT NOTICE! In order to mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus, notice is hereby given that ALL hearings before Judge Smith will be by TELEPHONE APPEARANCE ONLY until further notice. The courtroom will be locked. Any party who wishes to appear must register in advance by contacting CourtCall at (866) 582-6878. It is suggested that parties register with CourtCall at least 30 minutes prior to the hearing. Through September 30, 2020, CourtCall is offering discounted registration for attorneys and <u>free</u> registration for parties without an attorney.

July 16. 2019

Stephen Haythorne to appear in court to be sworn in by the court clerk; the examination will take place outside the courtroom.

\_\_\_\_\_

### August 8, 2019

Stephen Haythorne to appear in court to be sworn in by the court clerk; the examination will take place outside the courtroom.

# Judge Erithe Smith, Presiding Courtroom 5A Calendar

Thursday, September 2, 2021

**Hearing Room** 

5A

10:30 AM

**CONT...** Stephen J Haythorne

Chapter 7

# **August 15, 2019**

Stephen Haythorne to appear in court to be sworn in by the court clerk; the examination will take place outside the courtroom.

\_\_\_\_\_

### October 17, 2019

Judgment creditor has not sought the issuance of an OSC re contempt. Continue hearing to November 21, 2019 at 10:30 a.m. Any motion for OSC re contempt may be heard on the same date.

\_\_\_\_\_

#### November 21, 2019

Judgment creditor to advise the court re the status of this matter. The court notes that judgment creditor has not sought the issuance of an OSC re contempt.

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### January 30, 2020

Judgment creditor to advise the court re the status of this matter, e.g., production of documents. Stephen Haythorne to appear in court to be sworn in by the court clerk; the examination will take place outside the courtroom.

### June 11, 2020

Continue the examination to September 10, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

### **Basis for Tentative Ruling**

The courthouse remains closed to in-person court appearances and on-site in-person judgment debtor examinations. Judgment creditor is free to

### Judge Erithe Smith, Presiding Courtroom 5A Calendar

Thursday, September 2, 2021

**Hearing Room** 

5A

10:30 AM

# **CONT...** Stephen J Haythorne

Chapter 7

schedule an examination outside the courthouse, including by video conference, prior to September 10, 2020. Depending on the status of pandemic-related rules and policies in place on September 1, 2020, the September 10, 2020 hearing may be further continued.

Note: If the Judgment Creditor accepts the foregoing tentative ruling, appearance at this hearing is not required and Judgment Creditor shall serve notice of the continued hearing date/time. Non-appearance at the hearing will be deemed acceptance of the tentative ruling.

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### September 10, 2020

Continue the examination to November 19, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. (XX)

### **Basis for Tentative Ruling**

The courthouse is currently closed to in-person court appearances and onsite in-person judgment debtor examinations. Judgment creditor is free to schedule an examination outside the courthouse, including by video conference, prior to November 19, 2020. Depending on the status of pandemic-related rules and policies in place on November 19, 2020, the examination may be further continued.

Note: If the Judgment Creditor accepts the foregoing tentative ruling, appearance at this hearing is not required and Judgment Creditor shall serve notice of the continued hearing date/time. Non-appearance at the hearing will be deemed acceptance of the tentative ruling.

#### **Party Information**

# Judge Erithe Smith, Presiding Courtroom 5A Calendar

Thursday, September 2, 2021

**Hearing Room** 

**5A** 

10:30 AM

**CONT...** Stephen J Haythorne

Chapter 7

**Debtor(s):** 

Stephen J Haythorne Represented By

David S Henshaw

**Defendant(s):** 

Stephen J Haythorne Pro Se

**Plaintiff(s):** 

Hugh C Damon Represented By

Robert P Goe Charity J Manee

**Trustee(s):** 

Weneta M Kosmala (TR) Pro Se

Judge Erithe Smith, Presiding Courtroom 5A Calendar

Thursday, September 2, 2021

**Hearing Room** 

**5A** 

10:30 AM

8:16-11882 Stephen J Haythorne

Chapter 7

Adv#: 8:16-01247 Damon v. Haythorne

#6.00 CON'TD Examination of Judgment Debtor/Third Person Kelli R. Haythorne RE: Enforcement of Judgment

FR: 7-16-19; 8-15-19; 10-17-19; 11-21-19; 1-30-20; 4-2-20; 6-11-20; 9-10-20; 11-19-20; 1-14-21; 3-11-21; 5-11-21; 7-1-21

Docket 130

\*\*\* VACATED \*\*\* REASON: CONTINUED TO 11/4/2021 AT 10:30 A.M., PER ORDER ENTERED 8/30/2021 (XX)

#### **Courtroom Deputy:**

- NONE LISTED -

### **Tentative Ruling:**

SPECIAL IMPORTANT NOTICE! In order to mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus, notice is hereby given that ALL hearings before Judge Smith will be by TELEPHONE APPEARANCE ONLY until further notice. The courtroom will be locked. Any party who wishes to appear must register in advance by contacting CourtCall at (866) 582-6878. It is suggested that parties register with CourtCall at least 30 minutes prior to the hearing. Through September 30, 2020, CourtCall is offering discounted registration for attorneys and <u>free</u> registration for parties without an attorney.

July 16. 2019

Kelli Haythorne to appear in court to be sworn in by the court clerk; the examination will take place outside the courtroom.

\_\_\_\_\_

### **August 8, 2019**

Kelli Haythorne to appear in court to be sworn in by the court clerk; the examination will take place outside the courtroom.

### Judge Erithe Smith, Presiding Courtroom 5A Calendar

Thursday, September 2, 2021

**Hearing Room** 

**5A** 

10:30 AM

**CONT...** Stephen J Haythorne

Chapter 7

# August 15, 2019

Kelli Haythorne to appear in court to be sworn in by the court clerk; the examination will take place outside the courtroom.

.

### October 17, 2019

Judgment creditor has not sought the issuance of an OSC re contempt. Continue hearing to November 21, 2019 at 10:30 a.m. Any motion for OSC re contempt may be heard on the same date.

\_\_\_\_\_

#### November 21, 2019

Judgment creditor to advise the court re the status of this matter. The court notes that judgment creditor has not sought the issuance of an OSC re contempt.

·

### January 30, 2020

Judgment creditor to advise the court re the status of this matter, e.g., production of documents. Kelli Haythorne to appear in court to be sworn in by the court clerk; the examination will take place outside the courtroom (no doctor's note was filed by January 16, 2020 excusing her appearance).

\_\_\_\_\_

### June 4, 2020

Continue the examination to September 10, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

### Basis for Tentative Ruling

The courthouse remains closed to in-person court appearances and on-site

### Judge Erithe Smith, Presiding Courtroom 5A Calendar

Thursday, September 2, 2021

**Hearing Room** 

5A

10:30 AM

### **CONT...** Stephen J Haythorne

Chapter 7

in-person judgment debtor examinations. Judgment creditor is free to schedule an examination outside the courthouse, including by video conference, prior to September 10, 2020. Depending on the status of pandemic-related rules and policies in place on September 1, 2020, the September 10, 2020 hearing may be further continued.

Note: If the Judgment Creditor accepts the foregoing tentative ruling, appearance at this hearing is not required and Judgment Creditor shall serve notice of the continued hearing date/time. Non-appearance at the hearing will be deemed acceptance of the tentative ruling.

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# September 10, 2020

Continue the examination to November 19, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. (XX)

### Basis for Tentative Ruling

The courthouse is currently closed to in-person court appearances and onsite in-person judgment debtor examinations. Judgment creditor is free to schedule an examination outside the courthouse, including by video conference, prior to November 19, 2020. Depending on the status of pandemic-related rules and policies in place on November 19, 2020, the examination may be further continued.

Note: If the Judgment Creditor accepts the foregoing tentative ruling, appearance at this hearing is not required and Judgment Creditor shall serve notice of the continued hearing date/time. Non-appearance at the hearing will be deemed acceptance of the tentative ruling.

### **Party Information**

### **Debtor(s):**

Stephen J Haythorne

Represented By David S Henshaw

# Judge Erithe Smith, Presiding Courtroom 5A Calendar

Thursday, September 2, 2021 Hearing Room 5A

10:30 AM

CONT... Stephen J Haythorne Chapter 7

**Defendant(s):** 

Stephen J Haythorne Pro Se

**Plaintiff(s):** 

Hugh C Damon Represented By

Robert P Goe Charity J Manee

**Trustee(s):** 

Weneta M Kosmala (TR) Pro Se

### Judge Erithe Smith, Presiding Courtroom 5A Calendar

Thursday, September 2, 2021

**Hearing Room** 

**5A** 

10:30 AM

8:18-12967 Lillian Sikanovski Dulac

Chapter 7

#7.00 Hearing RE: Debtor's Objection to Claim Number 3 of The Dulac Family Trust

Docket 189

### **Courtroom Deputy:**

- NONE LISTED -

#### **Tentative Ruling:**

### September 2, 2021

This matter needs to be set for an evidentiary hearing regarding the authenticity of the subject promissory note in light of the conflicting declarations presented by Debtor and Claimant. Tentative Hearing Date (via Zoom): November 19, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. Pacific. Technical Status Conference will be held November 10, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. Pacific Time (via Zoom) to address any technical issues such as access to the Zoom platform and the presentation of evidence, including the original promissory note. Declarants Lillian Dulac and Georgette Dulac must be present for both the Status Conference and the evidentiary hearing.

#### **Party Information**

#### **Debtor(s):**

Lillian Sikanovski Dulac Represented By

Michael Jones Sara Tidd

Trustee(s):

Weneta M.A. Kosmala (TR)

Represented By

Erin P Moriarty

### Judge Erithe Smith, Presiding Courtroom 5A Calendar

Thursday, September 2, 2021

**Hearing Room** 

**5A** 

10:30 AM

8:18-12967 Lillian Sikanovski Dulac

Chapter 7

#8.00 Hearing RE: Chapter 7 Trustee's Objection to Claim No. 8-1 of Ronald Dulac

(\$1,308,420.99)

Docket 192

\*\*\* VACATED \*\*\* REASON: CONTINUED TO 9/30/2021 AT 10:30 A.M., Per Order Entered 8/23/2021 (XX)

**Courtroom Deputy:** 

CONTINUED: Hearing Continued to 9/30/2021 at 10:30 a.m., Per Order Entered 8/23/2021 (XX) - td (8/23/2021)

**Tentative Ruling:** 

- NONE LISTED -

### **Party Information**

**Debtor(s):** 

Lillian Sikanovski Dulac Represented By

Michael Jones Sara Tidd

**Trustee(s):** 

Weneta M.A. Kosmala (TR)

Represented By

Erin P Moriarty

### Judge Erithe Smith, Presiding Courtroom 5A Calendar

Thursday, September 2, 2021

**Hearing Room** 

**5A** 

10:30 AM

#### 8:19-13858 Bruce Elieff

Chapter 7

#9.00 Hearing RE: Chapter 7 Trustee's Motion for Order (1) Authorizing Sale of Real Property (177 Shorecliff Road, Corona del Mar, California 92625) Free and Clear of Liens, Claims, and Interests; (2) Confirming sale to Buyer; (3) Determining that Buyer is a Good Faith Purchaser; (4) Authorizing Withholding and Remittance of Estimated State Income Taxes Arising from Sale; (5) Waiving the Fourteen (14) Day Stay Prescribed by Rule 6004(h) of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure; and (6) Approving Bidding Procedures and Breakup Fee in Connection with Proposed Sale

Docket 1175

### **Courtroom Deputy:**

- NONE LISTED -

#### **Tentative Ruling:**

#### September 2, 2021

The court is inclined to do the following: 1) Grant the motion subject to overbid; Deny waiver of FRBP 6004; Deny request for an evidentiary hearing and for adequate protection; Grant request of the IRS to receive distribution of Debtor's homestead claim, i.e., \$75,000, out of escrow.

### Basis for Tentative Ruling

### A. Preliminary Comments

- 1. The court would like for Trustee's broker to state, on the record, specific marketing efforts, including the various platforms used to expose the property to the market as well the number of inquiries received, other offers (if any), etc.
- 2. The court would like the proposed buyer to state under oath whether it has any direct or indirect connections to Debtor or <u>Trustee's</u> broker.

### Judge Erithe Smith, Presiding Courtroom 5A Calendar

Thursday, September 2, 2021

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**5A** 

1<u>0:30 AM</u>

**CONT...** Bruce Elieff

Chapter 7

B. Objections of IRS

- 1. The Trustee employed a broker to market the property. The property has been marketed since *October 2020*. The IRS appears to assume that the value listed by Debtor in his schedules, i.e., \$30 million, *is* the fair market value of the property. However, the original list price was \$39 million and ultimately reduced to \$29.995 million six months ago with no offers at or near that price. While an owner of property may offer an opinion as to its value, the weight given to such valuation is often negligible. The court is incredulous that the IRS is requesting that this court accept Debtor's scheduled value as the actual fair market value of the property.
- 2. The IRS appears to be requesting that this court take judicial notice of the fact that the market for residential property in Southern California is "very hot and in high demand" and that 2021 housing prices are at record high levels. The court declines the invitation to speculate as it is unaware of the "hotness" of high-end properties in the \$20 million range.
- 3. The IRS argues that the Sale Motion does not include an appraisal by a qualified appraiser, yet provides no legal authority for the proposition that such an appraisal is necessary for a 363 sale motion. The court has presided over tens of dozens of 363 sales in the past 27 years and cannot recall a single instance where a 363 sale motion included an appraisal. This is because an appraisal is irrelevant to a properly marketed sale process. An appraisal may be relevant in the context of plan confirmation where a debtor intends to retain property or to sell or refinance it at a later date. That is not the situtation here. Not surprisingly, the IRS provides no legal authority to support its argument.
- 4. The court agrees that a) the IRS recorded a Notice of Federal Tax on March 27, 2019. b) that such lien attached to "all property and rights to property" belonging to Debtor, c) the \$75,000 homestead exemption in which Debtor asserts an interest is property subject to such lien, and d) the homestead proceeds should be distributed to the IRS. See 11 U.S.C. 522(c) (2)(B); *In re Bolden*, 327 B.R. 657, 662 (Bankr.C.D.Cal.2005) ["Pursuant to § 522(c)(2), exempt property, such as that represented by Mr. Bolden's

### Judge Erithe Smith, Presiding Courtroom 5A Calendar

Thursday, September 2, 2021

**Hearing Room** 

**5A** 

10:30 AM

#### **CONT...** Bruce Elieff

Chapter 7

homestead exemption claim, remains liable for debts secured by a lien that is not avoided or for which a notice of such things as a federal tax lien has been filed. The homestead exemption does not have precedence over the tax liens. Generally, a debtor is not entitled to claim a homestead exemption on property that is subject to an IRS levy".

- 4. The court agrees with the IRS that judicial estoppel has no application for the reasons stated in the IRS' supplemental response. Dkt 1208 at pp. 3-5.
- 5. The IRS implies that the buyer is in collusion with Debtor and/or Trustee but offers no evidence of the same.

### B. Objections of Kurtin

- 1. Like the IRS, Kurtin takes issue with the proposed sale price of \$18.888 million and presents its own appraisal showing a value of \$25.5 million. Assuming the property was adequately marketed by Trustee's broker, the fact that no offers were received in the amount of \$25 million answers Kurtin's plaintive question as to why proposed sale is \$6 million and calls into question the credibility of Kurtin's appraiser.
- 2. Mr. Landau's declaration attached to Kurtin's opposition [Dkt. 1194 at p. 18, para 3] is replete with unsubstantiated and unreliable hearsay regarding Kathryn White's experience in attempting to obtaining access to the property. Her declaration is not provided.
- 3. Kurtin argues that the overbid process has been compromised by the broker's failure to adjust current MLS list prie from \$29,,995,000 to the initial overbid price of \$19,388,888. No documentary evidence of the same has been provided.
- 4. The court is not persuaded by Kurtin's argument that the proposed sale price is \$6 million less than fair market value according to his appraiser, given that no offers higher than the proposed sale price has been received since October 2020.

### Judge Erithe Smith, Presiding Courtroom 5A Calendar

Thursday, September 2, 2021

**Hearing Room** 

**5A** 

10:30 AM

### **CONT...** Bruce Elieff

Chapter 7

- 5. Regarding Kurtin's subordinated liens, such liens will attach to the proceeds of the sale. The treatment of such subordinated liens is indeed the subject of a bona fide dispute, as best evidenced by Kurtin's pending appeal of this court's order regarding such subordination of the liens.
- 6. The court does not find persuasive Kurtin's argument that there is something nefarious about the buyer's broker, Lin He, being both the manager of the buyer and its broker or that, as a result of the same, Mr. He is not entitled to the 2.5% commission.
- 7. The court agrees with Kurtin that the 14-day stay of FRBP 6004(h) should not be waived. Though the waiver is routinely requested by debtors and trustees, there is no entitlement to such a waiver. Here, where at least two creditors have strongly argued against the waiver, the court will deny the same.
- 8. The court does not see the necessity for an evidentiary hearing at this time. The broker and buyer will be afforded a limited opportunity to address the court re 1) marketing efforts and 2) connections to Debtor, respectively. There will not, however, be an opportunity for an cross examination as there is no time for the same on the court law and motion calendar. Based on the statements made at the hearing, the court will determine if further hearing is required.
- 9. As Kurtin's subordinated liens will attach to the proceeds, he is not entitled to adequate protection. Moreover, as previously indicated above, the court is not persuaded that the proposed sale price is below market.
- C. Objection of GJC Aircraft SPV 8, LLC (GJC)

This objection has been adequately addressed by Trustee's reply. Dkt # 1203

D. Objection of California Bank & Trust ("CB&T)

This objection has been adequately addressed by Trustee's reply. Dkt # 1204

# Judge Erithe Smith, Presiding Courtroom 5A Calendar

Thursday, September 2, 2021

**Hearing Room** 

**5A** 

10:30 AM

**CONT...** Bruce Elieff

Chapter 7

#### **EVIDENTIARY OBJECTIONS**

# Evidentiary Objections to the Declaration of Howard M. Ehrenberg

Para. 7

SUSTAINED as to "and is more than any previous offer received by me." Best Evidence. OVERRULED as to the balance.

Para. 8

SUSTAINED as to "Buyer has represented to me . . . of the estate." Hearsay. SUSTAINED as to "Moreover, Buyer is not

. . . 101(31)." Lack of foundation. OVERRULED as to the balance.

Para. 16

paragraph).

# Evidentiary Objections to Declaration of Garrett Weston

Objection Ruling

Para. 6 SUSTAINED as to "Compass's internal analysis."

**OVERRULED** 

as to the balance.

### **Party Information**

### **Debtor(s):**

Bruce Elieff Represented By

Lisa Nelson Robert P Goe

# Judge Erithe Smith, Presiding Courtroom 5A Calendar

Thursday, September 2, 2021

**Hearing Room** 

**5A** 

10:30 AM

**CONT...** Bruce Elieff

Chapter 7

**Trustee(s):** 

Howard M Ehrenberg (TR)

Represented By
Alan G Tippie
Daniel A Lev
Sean A OKeefe
Claire K Wu

# Judge Erithe Smith, Presiding Courtroom 5A Calendar

Thursday, September 2, 2021

**Hearing Room** 

5A

10:30 AM

8:20-11507 HCA West, Inc

Chapter 11

#10.00

Hearing RE: Motion for Order Further Extending the Time Periods During Which the Debtors Have the Exclusive Right to File a Plan and to Solicit Acceptances Thereof Pursuant to Section 1121(d) of The Bankruptcy Code

Docket 536

**Courtroom Deputy:** 

- NONE LISTED -

**Tentative Ruling:** 

September 2, 2021

Grant the Motion.

Note: This matter appears to be uncontested. Accordingly, no court appearance by the Movant is required. Should an opposing party file a late opposition or appear at the hearing, the court will determine whether further hearing is required and Movant will be so notified.

### **Party Information**

### **Debtor(s):**

HCA West, Inc

Represented By
John W Lucas
Jason H Rosell
Victoria Newmark

# Judge Erithe Smith, Presiding Courtroom 5A Calendar

Thursday, September 2, 2021

**Hearing Room** 

**5A** 

10:30 AM

8:21-10608 DEA Brothers Sisters LLC

Chapter 11

#11.00

CON'TD STATUS CONFERENCE Hearing on Status of Chapter 11 Case; and (2) Requiring Report on Status of Chapter 11 Case

FR: 5-6-21

Docket 1

### **Courtroom Deputy:**

- NONE LISTED -

### **Tentative Ruling:**

May 6, 2021

Claims Bar Date: 7/12/21 [notice to creditors by

5/12/21]

Deadline to File Plan/Disc. Stmt 8/11/21 -- no additional extensions

Continued Status Conference: 9/2/21 at 10:30 a.m. (XX)

Updated Status Report due: 8/19/21 (waived if plan/ds timely

filed)

Note: If Debtor accepts the foregoing tentative ruling and there is no objection by the US Trustee or other party, appearances at this hearing are not required; court to issue its own order.

#### September 2, 2021

Continue Status Conference to December 16, 2021 at 10:30 a.m.; updated Status Report must be filed by December 2, 2021 unless a plan and disclosure statement has been filed by such date, in which case the requirement of an updated Status Report will be waived.

# Judge Erithe Smith, Presiding Courtroom 5A Calendar

Thursday, September 2, 2021

**Hearing Room** 

**5A** 

10:30 AM

**CONT... DEA Brothers Sisters LLC** 

**Chapter 11** 

Note: If all parties accept the tentative ruling, appearances at today's hearing is not required.

# **Party Information**

# **Debtor(s):**

**DEA Brothers Sisters LLC** 

Represented By Roger J Plasse

### Judge Erithe Smith, Presiding Courtroom 5A Calendar

Thursday, September 2, 2021

**Hearing Room** 

**5A** 

10:30 AM

8:21-10635 Alicia Marie Richards

Chapter 7

#12.00 Hearing RE: Debtor's Objection to Claim Number 5-1 by Claimant Kevin

Robinson (\$240,652.15)

Docket 116

\*\*\* VACATED \*\*\* REASON: CONTINUED TO 9/9/2021 AT 10:30 A.M.,

Per Order Entered 8/4/2021 (XX)

**Courtroom Deputy:** 

CONTINUED: Hearing Continued to 9/9/2021 at 10:30 a.m., Per Order Entered 8/4/2021 (XX) - td (8/4/2021)

**Tentative Ruling:** 

- NONE LISTED -

**Party Information** 

**Debtor(s):** 

Alicia Marie Richards

Pro Se

**Trustee(s):** 

Richard A Marshack (TR)

Represented By
Richard G Heston

# Judge Erithe Smith, Presiding Courtroom 5A Calendar

Thursday, September 2, 2021

**Hearing Room** 

**5A** 

10:30 AM

8:21-10635 Alicia Marie Richards

Chapter 7

#13.00 Hearing RE: Debtor's Objection to Claim Number 7-1 by Claimant Cavalry SPV I, LLC (\$10,649.36)

Docket 143

**Courtroom Deputy:** 

SPECIAL NOTE: Withdrawal of Claim filed 7/29/2021, document #147 - td (7/30/2021)

**Tentative Ruling:** 

September 2, 2021

Overrule objection as moot in light of Claimant's withdrawal of Claim Number 7-1 by Claimant on July 29, 2021 [Dkt #147]

### **Party Information**

**Debtor(s):** 

Alicia Marie Richards Pro Se

**Trustee(s):** 

Richard A Marshack (TR)

Represented By

Richard G Heston

### Judge Erithe Smith, Presiding Courtroom 5A Calendar

Thursday, September 2, 2021

**Hearing Room** 

**5A** 

10:30 AM

8:21-11629 Kelly Davina Bomar

Chapter 7

#14.00 Hearing RE: ORDER to show cause re dismissal for failure to comply with rule

1006(B) -installments (\$100.00 due 7/30/2021)

(OSC Issued 8/2/2021)

Docket 10

\*\*\* VACATED \*\*\* REASON: OFF CALENDAR: \$100.00 Installment

Payment Made on 8/3/2021, Receipt #80075614

**Courtroom Deputy:** 

OFF CALENDAR: \$100.00 Installment Payment Made on 8/3/2021,

Receipt #80075614 - td (8/3/2021)

**Tentative Ruling:** 

- NONE LISTED -

**Party Information** 

**Debtor(s):** 

Kelly Davina Bomar Pro Se

Trustee(s):

Weneta M.A. Kosmala (TR) Pro Se

### Judge Erithe Smith, Presiding Courtroom 5A Calendar

Thursday, September 2, 2021

**Hearing Room** 

**5A** 

10:30 AM

8:21-11723 Advantage Manufacturing, Inc.

Chapter 11

#15.00

STATUS CONFERENCE Hearing on Status of Subchapter V Case; (2)
Requiring Report on Status of Subchapter V Case by Debtor and Subchapter V
Trustee; and (3) Requiring Subchapter V Trustee to Appear at the Status
Conference

Docket 1

#### **Courtroom Deputy:**

- NONE LISTED -

### **Tentative Ruling:**

### September 2, 2021

Continue Status Conference to November 4, 2021 at 10:30 a.m.; an updated Status Report must be filed by Debtor by October 21, 2021 and by the Sub V Trustee by October 28, 2021. If Debtor timely files a plan within 90 days of the order of relief, the requirement of a Status Report by both Debtor and the Sub V Trustee will not be required.

Note: Appearances at this hearing are not required if Debtor is in substantial compliance with the requirements of the US Trustee.

### **Party Information**

#### **Debtor(s):**

Advantage Manufacturing, Inc. Represented By

Michael G Spector

**Trustee(s):** 

Robert Paul Goe (TR) Pro Se

# Judge Erithe Smith, Presiding Courtroom 5A Calendar

Thursday, September 2, 2021

**Hearing Room** 

**5A** 

10:30 AM

8:21-10525 The Source Hotel, LLC

Chapter 11

#16.00

Hearing RE: Debtor and Debtor-in-Possession's Motion for Entry of Order: (1) Establishing Bidding and Sale Procedures for Sale of Substantially All of the Debtor's Assets; (2) Approving Form of Notice to Be Provided to Prospective Buyers; and (3) Scheduling a Hearing for the Court to Consider Approval of the Sale of Substantially all of the Debtor's Assets

Docket 214

### **Courtroom Deputy:**

- NONE LISTED -

### **Tentative Ruling:**

#### September 2, 2021

Grant the Motion. However, Debtor needs to clarify the location of the auction. Is the expectation that the auction will take place in the virtual courtroom, or in a virtual breakout room or somewhere else?

### **Party Information**

#### **Debtor(s):**

The Source Hotel, LLC

Represented By Ron Bender Juliet Y Oh

Judge Erithe Smith, Presiding Courtroom 5A Calendar

Thursday, September 2, 2021

**Hearing Room** 

**5A** 

2:00 PM

**8:19-13858** Bruce Elieff

Chapter 7

Adv#: 8:20-01161 Kurtin v. Elieff

#17.00 **ORAL RULING RE:** Plaintiff's Motion for Summary Judgment or Partial Summary Judgment

FR: 5-6-21; 6-17-21; 8-19-21

Docket 10

\*\*\* VACATED \*\*\* REASON: Continued to September 15, 2021 at 2:00 pm on the Court's Own Motion

### **Courtroom Deputy:**

OFF CALENDAR: Continued to September 15, 2021 at 2:00 pm on the Court's Own Motion- mp(9/2/21)

### **Tentative Ruling:**

#### August 19, 2021

Plaintiff will have 25 minutes to highlight arguments in support of the Motion; Defendant will have 25 minutes to respond; Plaintiff will have 10 minutes for final comments. The hearing will then be adjourned to September 2, 2021 at 2:00 pm, at which time the court will issue an oral ruling. If a written ruling is posted prior to the hearing, counsel will be so notified.

### **Party Information**

### **Debtor(s):**

Bruce Elieff Represented By

Lisa Nelson Robert P Goe

#### **Defendant(s):**

Bruce Elieff Represented By

Robert P Goe

# **Judge Erithe Smith, Presiding Courtroom 5A Calendar**

Thursday, September 2, 2021 **Hearing Room** 

**5A** 

<u>2:00 PM</u>

Chapter 7 CONT... **Bruce Elieff** 

**Plaintiff(s):** 

Todd Kurtin Represented By

Lewis R Landau

Trustee(s):

Howard M Ehrenberg (TR) Represented By

> Alan G Tippie Daniel A Lev Sean A OKeefe Claire K Wu